## ABSTRACT

A polypeptide cleavage method characterized in that arginine or lysine is at the P1 position of a desired cleavage site in a polypeptide, an amino acid other than aspartic acid, glutamic acid or proline is at the P1' position, a single basic amino acid or two or three consecutive basic amino acids are situated at any site in the amino acid sequence from the P10 position to the P3 position or from the P3' position to the P5' position (with the proviso that a single basic amino acid is not situated at the P6 or P4 position), and OmpT protease or its variant enzyme having a substitution at the 97th amino acid from the N-terminus is used to cleave the desired cleavage site in the polypeptide.

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